



March 5, 2007

Hon. John Murtagh
Council Member, District 5
Yonkers City Hall
40 South Broadway
Yonkers, NY 10701

Re: Gas Powered Leaf Blower Regulation

Dear Councilman Murtagh:

I am writing in support of the proposed ban on the use of gas powered leaf blowers in Yonkers between May 1st and September 30th. Hudson Health Plan is a not-for-profit health plan providing publicly funded health insurance for low income residents in the Hudson Valley. As Chief Medical Officer I am aware of the impact of asthma on our 12,000-14,000 enrollees in Yonkers where data from the St. Johns Riverside Hospital asthma program suggests the proportion of school children affected by asthma is almost twice the national average, 12.1% vs. 6.9%.

As a resident of New Rochelle, I know that a seasonal ban on the use of gas leaf blowers is not a burden on homeowners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Sullivan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Janet Sullivan, MD
Chief Medical Officer